kerosene for domestic use was not increased on 20.3.1992 and 16.9.1992. It was decreased by 10% on 25.7.1991.

Date	% Increase
20.3.1990	10.57
15.10.1990	23.08
25.07.1991	5.80
16.09.1992	18.27

Withdrawal of Gulf surcharge

324. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 25 per cent hike imposed as Gulf surcharge have not been withdrawn despite the fact that the Gulf crisis was over in 1991 and the world crude prices had tumbled down to 18 dollars a barrel; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Gulf surcharge levy has not been withdrawn in view of the continued buoyancy in the crude oil prices.

Vacancies in Group 'D' Posts in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

325. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of vacancies in Group 'D' post (General Workmen) have been lying vacant in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited in its Regional Office, Jeewan Bharati Building, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchange have been awaiting in queue for their interviews/ selections since a very long time; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Demand by Maharashtra Govt. for second gas terminal

326. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has requested for second gas terminal at USAR and allotment of more gas from Bombay High;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what decision Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) A proposal to this effect was received from the Government of Maharashtra in June, 1992.

(c) In view of the allocations already made within the availability of gas, additional allocations of gas are not being considered for the present.

Supply of gas to M/s. Tata Electric Company

327. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question 1376 in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Gas supplies to M/s Tata Electric Company (TEC) has been restored; if so, when;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps Government have so far taken to restore the gas supply to TEC; and

(d) what is the present supply position?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) While the commitment to Tata Electric Company for gas supply is to an extent of 1.5 MMSCMD, the average supplies in the first fortnight of November have been 1.9 MMSCMD. Whenever there have been shortfalls in committed supplies of gas in the past Tata Electric Company have been given equivalent quantity of LSHS.

Execution of orders by M/s. P.J. pipes & vessels

328. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question 1370 in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether M/s P.J. Pipes & Vessels Ltd., Bombay have since executed each order referred to in para (a) of the above Unstarred Question;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and whether ONGC had granted an extension of delivery period upto 31.7.1992;

(d) what are the details of outstanding dues of ONGC against the said company as on 30.9.92; and

(e) what are the details of each order in respect of which supplies are yet to be made by the company?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e) No additional quantity has since been supplied against the 3 orders dated 9/16.7.90 towards which a balance quantity of about 35,000 metres was yet to be supplied. ONGC have further extended the delivery date upto 30.11.1992.

The outstanding dues against advances paid by ONGC as on date are Rs. 71,09,702.00.

Seeking share of gas from Bombay High by Maharashtra

329. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharshtra have represented to the Government for seeking share of gas from Bombay High;

(b) if so, what are the details of the original communication/reminders received and personal follow up by the Chief Minister;

(c) what is the reaction of the Government of India in regard thereto;

(d) what is the present production of gas from Bombay High and USAR Terminus; and

(e) what are the production plans during the Eighth Five Year plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) A proposal to this effect was received from the Govt. of Maharashtra in June, 1992.

(c) In view of the allocations already made within the availability of gas, additional allocations of gas are not being considered for the present.

(d) The present production of gas from Bombay High is about 36 MMSCMD. There is no terminal at Usar.

(e) A total production of gas in the Western Offshore during the Eighth Five Year Plan period is expected to be of the order of 90 billion cubic metres.